WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composite picture generating method for superimposing an image over a moving picture comprising the steps of:

specifying a locus of motion of the image as the moving picture is played; and

synthesizing the image moving along said specified locus over the moving picture.

2. A composite picture generating method according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

specifying a boundary area in the moving picture; and

modifying the locus of motion of the image so as to satisfy a condition defining said specified boundary area condition.

3. A composite picture generating method according to claim 2, comprising the steps of:

specifying information for identifying the boundary area along with the boundary area;

determining an actual boundary area in the played-back moving picture based on the specified area identification information; and

modifying an image superimposing position of said image based on the determined actual boundary area.

- 4. A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing the composite picture generating method of claim 1 by a computer.
- 5. A computer-readable recording medium storing a

program for implementing the composite picture generating method of claim 2 by a computer.

- 6. A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing the composite picture generating method of claim 3 by a computer.
- 7. A composite picture generating method for superimposing an image over a moving picture, executed by using a computer, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying the moving picture on a screen of a display from moving picture data,

drawing a desired locus of motion over the moving picture on the display screen as the moving picture is played, to generate the locus of motion of the image to be superimposed over the displayed moving picture; and

combining said image and said displayed moving picture in accordance with the drawn locus to generate a composite moving picture in the form of data.

- 8. An image synthesizing method according to claim
 7, wherein said step of drawing the locus of motion of
 the image comprises a step of variably changing a
 playback speed of the moving picture displayed on the
 screen.
- 9. An image synthesizing method according to claim 7, wherein said step of drawing the locus of motion of the image comprises a step of drawing the locus of motion over the displayed moving picture with a pointing device.
- 10. A/composite picture generating method according

to claim 7, comprising a step of specifying a motion boundary area for the combined image on the displayed moving picture and modifying the drawn locus to meet a condition defining said specified boundary area.

- 11. A composite picture generating method according to claim 10, comprising a step of specifying area identification information for identifying the boundary area, extracting an actual boundary of the played-back moving picture in accordance with the area identification information, and modifying a combined position of said image on said moving picture.
- 12. A composite picture generating method according to claim 7, wherein said moving picture constitutes a background image and said image to be combined constitutes a foreground image.
- 13. A composite picture generating method according to claim 7, comprising a step of displaying on the display screen an image synthesizing program view including a preview area and an operation function panel which a user can interactively operate.
- 14. A user support image synthesizing software for superimposing an image over a moving picture by using a low-cost computer, comprising the operation steps of:

displaying the moving picture on a display screen from moving picture data;

drawing a desired locus of motion over the moving picture on the display screen as the moving picture is played, to generate the locus of motion of the

image to be superimposed over the displayed moving picture; and

superimposing said image over the moving picture according to the drawn locus to generate a synthesized moving picture in the form of data.

- 15. A software according to claim 14, comprising a step of specifying a motion boundary area for the superimposed image on the displayed moving picture and modifying the drawn locus so as to satisfy a condition defining the specified motion boundary area.
- 16. A software according to claim 15, comprising a step of specifying area identification information for identifying the boundary area, extracting an actual boundary of the replayed moving picture according to the area identification information, and modifying a superimposing position of said image on the moving picture.

AND CI